

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1317

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T NAIROBI 1122

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, IR, KU, KE

SUBJECT: KENYAN COOPERATION WITH IRAN

1. I HAVE BEEN CONCERNED WITH THE LACK OF RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN KENYA AND IRAN IN WHAT SEEMS TO ME AN OBVIOUS OBJECTIVE FOR THE TWO COUNTRIES (PARTICULARLY KENYA) TO HAVE SUBSTANTIVE AND PRODUCTIVE TALKS. KENYA SHOULD BE WOOING IRAN, BUT THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO GO ABOUT IT. CANCELLATION OF EMPRESS' VISIT TO NNYA AND POSTPONEMENT TWICE OF IRANIAN TEAM (NOW DUE TO COME IN EARLY MARCH) ARE RESULTS OF IRANIAN SENSITIVITIES AND KENYAN FLUBS. KENYANS HAVE GIVEN LITTLE CONCRETE THOUGHT AT TOP LEVEL TO WHAT THEY WISH DISCUSS WITH IRANIANS OR HOW THEY COULD WORK TOGETHER (MOSTLY TO KENYA'S BENEFIT).

2. I EXPRESSED MY CONCERN ON THIS MATTER TO JUST-RETIRED

KENYAN AMBASSADOR HINAWY WHEN HE CALLED ON ME LAST WEEK. I SAID KENYANS WOULD HAVE TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN SEEKING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. I CITED AS EXAMPLE VERNON STOLEN OF CITIBANK WHO TOLD ME CITIBANK COULD PUT TOGETHER KUWAITI FINANCING FOR PIPELINE PROJECT BUT THAT KENYANS SHOULD APPROACH HIM. I SAID SAME APPLIED TO KENYAN APPROACH TO IRANIANS.

3. TODAY, AT DIPCORPS LUNCHEON FOR FONMIN WAIYAKI, WAIYAKI SOUGHT ME OUT, REFERRED TO MY CONVERSATION WITH HINAWY,

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SAYING HE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN TALKING WITH STOLEN.

I HAVE INFORMED STOLEN WAIYAKI WILL BE CALLING HIM. REGARDING IRANIANS, WAIYAKI SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER AND IN DETAIL WITH ME WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS. I STATED I WOULD BE GLAD TO DO SO.

4. I BELIEVE IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE US TO BRING KENYA TOGETHER WITH IRAN THEREBY HOPEFULLY REDUCING OR ALLEVIATING FUTURE US OBLIGATIONS IN KENYA. DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTIONS RE SPECIAL AREAS OF COOPERATION WHICH I MIGHT RAISE WITH WAIYAKI WOULD BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.
MARSHALL

SECRET

NNN

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